

# Winnipeg's Kerry Goulet: The Drive to Stop Concussions

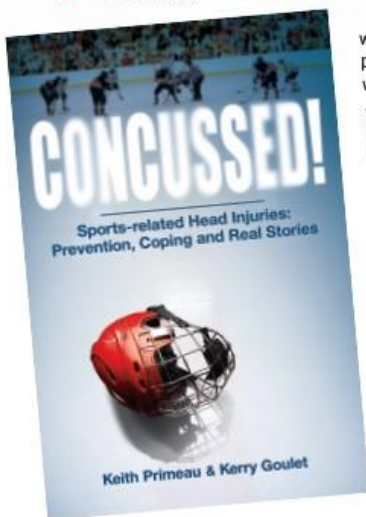
Kerry Goulet, the co-founder of stopconcussions.com doesn't have the same high-profile name that his friend and colleague Keith Primeau does. But make no mistake, the kid from Winnipeg was a tremendous hockey player. After starting his hockey career at Winakwa Community Centre, he progressed through the St. Boniface Saints organization, moved over to the Winnipeg Monarchs, played in the WHL and built a huge career in Europe. He's one of Manitoba's gifts to the game.

By Scott Taylor  
Photos courtesy Kerry Goulet and stopconcussions.com



KERRY GOULET WINNING THE GERMAN CHAMPIONSHIP IN 1993

**K**erry Goulet might live in Toronto, but he was born and raised in Winnipeg and Winnipeg is still near and dear to his heart.



Goulet learned to skate with his mom at St. Vital park and it was in Winnipeg where he learned the game of hockey went on to star in junior and later in ball-hockey.

In fact, his Winnipeg Grasshoppers represented Manitoba in eight national ball-hockey championships, collecting the title in 1985. In 2006, Kerry was inducted into the Canadian Ball Hockey Association's Hall of Fame and credits his experience with Hockey Manitoba and ball-hockey with assisting in honing his skills for a successful international ice hockey

career. That career was so successful, he spent 16 seasons as a player, coach and general manager with six different

teams in the German First, Second and Third Division.

Known in Germany as 'Mr. Eishockey,' his 1997 points collected in 505 games earned Goulet the honor of having his No. 29 jersey retired by the Timmendorfer Eisbears. In fact, his jersey was retired on the same night that fellow Winnipegger Mark MacKay had his jersey retired. At the age of 52, he was asked back to his old club in Germany to attempt to collect 2000 points. He accomplished that feat with a goal and two assists on a night in which his team won 5-3.

Kerry's coaching record was also sensational, with 312 wins in 452 games.

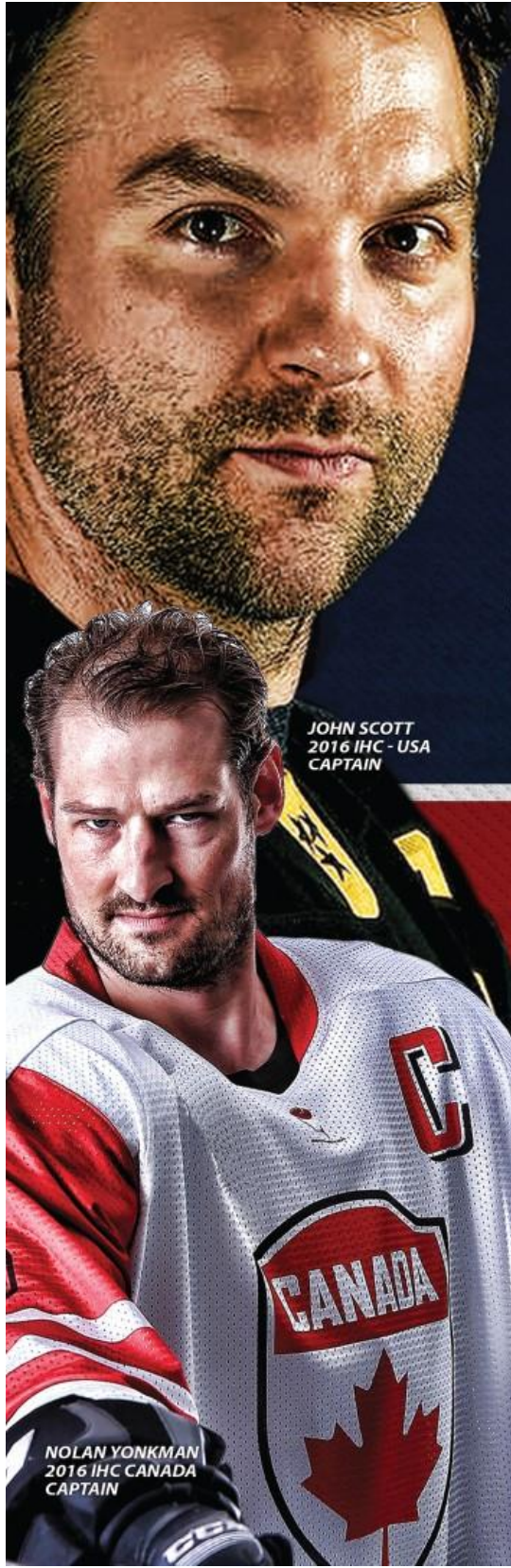
One of Goulet's hockey and ball-hockey teammates, the late Robert Vielfaure, suffered a broken neck that left him a quadriplegic 40 years ago. Using Robert's injury as motivation, Kerry has dedicated much of his off-ice energy to charitable causes. His main focus has been directed toward concussions and spinal cord injuries in sport.

"One of the lessons learned by Robert's plight," Goulet said, "was that it is not what you collect along your journey -- championships, scoring races, trophies, money, cars -- but what you give back.

"That will be your legacy."

Goulet is one of the founders of stopconcussions.com with Keith Primeau, former captain of the Philadelphia Flyers and is co-chairman of Shoot For A Cure.

As Global Director of stopconcussions.com, Goulet has formed an alliance with Barry Munro of the Canadian and American Spinal Research Organization to re-launch Shoot For A Cure. This is a campaign that has and will help educate coaches, trainers, parents and athletes about the cause, effects and consequences of neurotrauma



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For more info Contact Kerry Goulet at [goulet29@29sports.com](mailto:goulet29@29sports.com) for sponsorship opportunities and the chance to take part in the 2017 Ice Hockey Classic Tour in June!

## STOP CONCUSSIONS

injuries.

Another new initiative being launched this April will be The Alliance. As Goulet suffered three documented concussions while playing, he personally realizes the challenges of coping in the darkness of this injury. This program will support all athletes from every sport and every skill level and give them an opportunity for a proper head-trauma diagnoses. The Alliance will underwrite a flight and accommodation, as well as cover costs for the first diagnosis of the injury of those athletes who are unable to cover the costs themselves.

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“This is a very important purpose of my work,” said Goulet. “Some players are forced to leave the game because of the effects of this injury and are unable to find their way after the game. Oftentimes these players are unable to obtain or maintain employment and I want them to know there is light at the end of the dark tunnel. I want to give them hope by getting their concussion properly diagnosed and managed.”

Goulet, along with Malcolm Sutherland, has also created a new prevention platform known as Safe4Sports. It will launch this April at the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto.

Recently the German Ice Hockey Federation adopted the new prevention platform and stopconcussions.com will help set protocols and management procedures for the injury.

Meanwhile, as he travels the world on the mission to stop concussions and spinal cord injuries, Goulet has created a very special hockey event in Australia. The Australian Ice Hockey Classic, featuring hockey powers Canada and the United States, has been



MARVIN GLAZER, MARK MCKAY FROM WINNIPEG AND KERRY GOULET HAVE THEIR JERSEYS RETIRED IN GERMANY. THE BEST LINE IN EUROPE IN THE 80S AND 90S



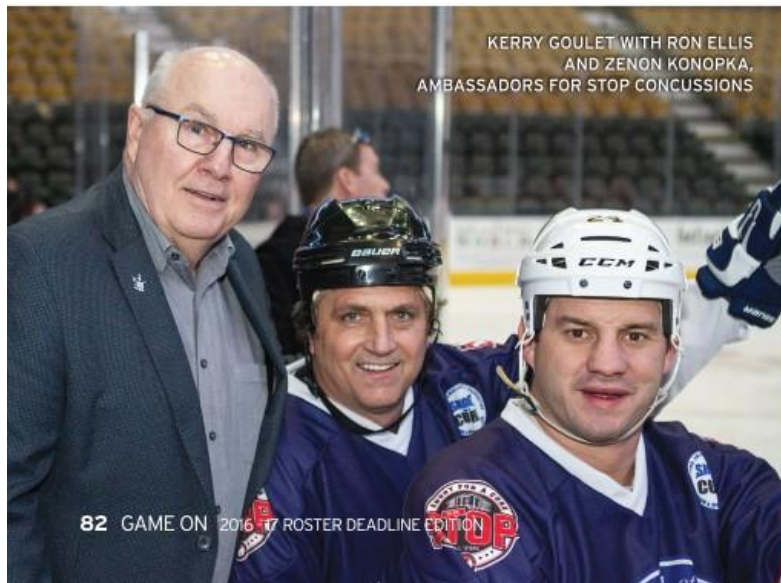
KERRY WITH WAYNE GRETZKY ON LAST YEAR'S AUSTRALIAN TOUR

developed to help grow ice hockey around the world and support stopconcussions.com and the Shoot For a Cure Campaign.

Last year, stopconcussions.com partnered with TLA World Wide and TEG to bring the Classic to Australia and The Great One, Wayne Gretzky attended as the ambassador. A group of former and current NHL players who have skated for their respective countries, including such stars as Brent Burns, Scott Darling, Kyle Quincey, Ian Cole, Bryce Salvador and Scott Hannan, participated in the event.

“Concussions end careers, end lives and dreams and the foundation’s goal is to address the management of concussions, head on,” said Goulet, “Only education can reduce the incidence of concussions. For additional information go to our website [www.stopconcussions.com](http://www.stopconcussions.com).” ■

*Stopconcussions.com, co-founded by Kerry Goulet and former NHL star Keith Primeau, is a concussion/neurotrauma educational and awareness platform for all sports, established to address the growing trend of concussions in sports. It is an educational portal that players, parents, coaches, and officials can visit to seek the most up-to-date information regarding concussions. The main goal of stopconcussions.com is to ensure a level of concussion awareness that ensures that all parties involved in sport can play it safe in their respective sport. Stopconcussions.com Foundation is a not-for-profit organization consisting of employees and ambassadors.*



KERRY GOULET WITH RON ELLIS AND ZENON KONOPKA, AMBASSADORS FOR STOP CONCUSSIONS